

BOOK REVIEWS

TRACY IRWIN STORER, ROBERT L. USINGER, and DAVID LUKAS. 2004. **Sierra Nevada Natural History. Revised Edition.** (ISBN 0-520-23277-1, hbk.; ISBN 0-520-24096-0, pbk.). University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94704, U.S.A (**Orders:** California Princeton Fulfillment Services, 1445 Lower Ferry Road, Ewing, NJ 08618, U.S.A., 609-883-1759, 609-883-7413 fax; www.ucpress.edu). \$24.95 pbk., 439pp., color photos, b/w drawings, 5" × 8".

The original edition by Storer and Usinger was published in 1965. Lukas has extensively revised this popular guide to the topology, geography, fauna, and flora of the area, incorporating field and laboratory investigations and taxonomic changes. In the concise but thorough introduction he explains the region and its diversity. Very important is the relatively brief section, "The Changing Landscape," in which he discusses the effects of global warming, clear cutting of forests, the use of prescribed fire, introduced non-native species, and also human impact.

The book is not definitive in species of the area but rather those that are most likely to be encountered. Following each species description, distribution is noted, that is, the habitat, terrain, elevation. "Remarks" include interesting facts, such as, in the case of flowering plants, the use of them by man and other creatures. As in the earlier edition, drawings accompany many species in the text, and over 500 small but brilliant color photographs enhance the book, serving as both aid to identification and stimulus for the user.

The book is well bound and a comfortable-to-hold field-guide size.—*Joann Karges, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, 76102-4060, U.S.A.*

PHYLLIS M. FABER (ED.). 1997. **California's Wild Gardens: A Guide to Favorite Botanical Sites.** (ISBN 0-520-24031-6, pbk.). University of California Press, Berkeley, CA 94704, U.S.A (**Orders:** California Princeton Fulfillment Services, 1445 Lower Ferry Road, Ewing, NJ 08618, U.S.A., 609-883-1759, 609-883-7413 fax; www.ucpress.edu). \$34.95 pbk., 236pp., color photos, 9" × 12".

This is a 2005 printing of a 1997 title, *California's Wild Gardens. A Living Legacy*. Quoting from the preface, "California is blessed with a wealth of plant life that reflects the diversity of its natural landscape. Showcasing some of the state's rare and unique plants and their distinctive habitats along with some of the more common treasures, this book attempts to provide an introduction to California's priceless botanical heritage." Both the California Native Plant Society and the California Department of Fish and Game are to be congratulated in producing this beautiful book.